

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

If re Application of.

BARR et al.

Serial No. 10/001,590

Filed: OCTOBER 30, 2001

For:

METHOD TO CORRECT FOR

MALFUNCTIONING INK EJECTION

ELEMENTS IN A SINGLE PASS

PRINT MODE

Art Unit: 2853

Examiner: NGUYEN, L. S.

DECLARATION UNDER 37 CFR 1.131

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

- 1. I am one of the inventors of the subject matter set out in the above-captioned patent application, and make this declaration to establish completion of the invention claimed in this application prior to May 1, 2001 (the filing date of U.S. Patent Application Publication 2002/0021325 A1 (Koitabashi).
- During the time in which the invention was developed and constructed, and at all times relevant to this declaration, I was employed by Hewlett-Packard Company (HP), the assignee of this application.
- 3. The invention of at least claims 1-5, 17 and 20 of this application were conceived and completed, prior to May 1, 2001, within the United States. In particular, a prototype computer code embodying the claimed invention was

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tested on a printhead for its intended use prior to May 1, 2001 at facilities of HP within the United States.

- 4. The computer code identified an ink ejection element to malfunction and caused the element to malfunction. The code identified ink ejection elements adjacent to the malfunctioning ejection elements, selected particular adjacent ink ejection elements, and modified a standard printmask by adjusting the amount of ink deposited by the selected adjacent ink ejection elements to create a modified printmask.
- 5. Prior to May 1, 2001, the prototype code was tested and run using a printer with a printhead operating in a single-pass mode. The printer and printhead with the prototype code produced sets of prints, some with the malfunctioning elements without adjusted amounts of ink deposited by selected adjacent ink ejection elements and some with malfunctioning ink ejection elements and adjusted amounts of ink deposited by the selected adjacent ink ejection elements. The prints created with the adjusted amounts of ink showed improved performance with less visible errors caused by the malfunctioning ink ejection elements.
- 6. As evidence of completion of the invention prior to May 1, 2001, attached are Exhibits A and B, which are redacted copies of:

Exhibit A - "Disclosure" document prepared and witnessed prior to May 1, 2001 and stating that the invention had been built as of a date prior to May 1, 2001, the disclosure document including a five-page "Invention Disclosure," two pages from a laboratory notebook belonging to one of the inventors, and one page of notes discussing the invention; and

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7. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and believe are believed to be true; and further that those statements were made with the knowledge that wilful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such wilful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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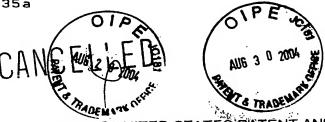
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Dated:	Jeffery H. Barr
	Jellery H. Ball
Dated:	Jennifer Korngiebel
Dated: <u>Any 23,2004</u>	Tod S. Heiles
Dated:	Steven L. Webb
Dated:	Jeffrey D. Rutland



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	Jeffery H. Barr
Dated:	Jennifer Korngiebel
Dated:	Tod S. Heiles
Dated: Auly. 26, 2004	Steven L. Webb
Dated:	Jeffrey D. Rutland
	Jenrey D. Runand



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Dated:	Tod S. Heiles
Dated:	Steven L. Webb
Dated: Aug. 20, 2004	Jeffrey D. Rutland